

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] Those of skill in the art are knowledgeable of several techniques for orienting a horizontally positioned downhole tool with respect to a vertical plane. As a non-illustrated example, the outer perimeter of a charge carrier wall may be fabricated eccentrically of the inner bore perimeter thereby creating a weighted moment of wall mass concentration eccentrically concentrated about the charge carrier axis. If allowed to rotate about the charge carrier axis, the line of eccentrically concentrated wall mass will seek a bottom-most position.

Please replace paragraph [0047] with the following amended paragraph:

[0047] The loading tube 39 is stepped on opposite sides of a ridge 38 to co-axially assemble within the gun tube wall 35 between the ballast rails 37. This ridge confinement necessarily orients the discharge plane of the shaped charge units 40. The mass of the eccentrically concentrated ballast rails 37 provides a gravitational bias to a vertical orientation of the outer gun tube 35. The V-channel between the ballast rails 37 keys the angular orientation of the loading tube 39 relative to the outer gun tube 35. The shaped charge 40 may given any desired angular orientation within the loading tube 39 for the discharge axis of the perforating jet 32 relative to the ridge key 38. The relative orientation illustrated by Figs. 2, 3 and 4 represents a shaped charge discharge axis 32 that is parallel with a vertical plane. However, the angular direction of the shaped charge discharge jet 32 about the gun axis may be set at any convenient or desired angle relative to the vertical plane. Hence, the perforation axis of the jet 32 relative to a gravity vertical may be predetermined.